

ABSTRACT

A multi-user, multi-device remote access system is provided for allowing a plurality of non-homogenous, spatially-distributed devices, such as sensors, actuators, controllers, and other similar devices, to be remotely controlled by a user via a user interface. A universal controller 5 allows devices of various types to be automatically integrated therewith for use. The universal controller communicates with a resource manager that monitors and dispatches requests for information and commands generated by the user at the user interface. High-level instructions are entered by a user at the user interface, received by the resource manager, and translated into bytecodes, whereupon the bytecodes are sent to an appropriate universal controller based upon 10 instruction type and device availability. The bytecodes are executed by the universal controller, and one or more devices connected therewith are activated. Results of execution are gathered by the universal controller, transmitted to the resource manager, and dispatched to the user interface for display to the user. System status information is provided by the resource manager and accessible via the user interface.

15

20 878625

25